



2026 SALLY ISAAC

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND* AWARD

Recognising the
significant community
contribution of young
women and non-binary
people 35 years and under

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
LGPRO
PROFESSIONALS
THE LEADING VOICE

SALLY ISAAC

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ABOUT LGPRO

LGPro is the member association and leading voice for people working in Local Government in Victoria, providing leadership, professional development and representation in the pursuit of ex-celence.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Sally Isaac Memorial Scholarship Fund Award is for women and non-binary people 35 years and under who have demonstrated achievement and commitment to improving community life in Victoria through:

- **Local Government**
- **Social justice**
- **Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation**
- **Arts and music**
- **Community health**
- **Culturally and linguistically diverse communities**
- **Urban planning**
- **The environment**

Nominees must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia. They can be Local Government officers, Councillors or community members.

BACKGROUND

Sally Elizabeth Isaac was an extraordinary woman and young leader in the Local Government sector who passed away in early 2009.

In 2006, at the age of 33, Sally was appointed Director of Community Programs at Yarra City Council where she was directly responsible for 342 professional staff working in aged care, childcare, community planning, advocacy, the arts and library services. She had an amazing capacity for developing people, engaging in policy debate and her absolute commitment to social justice in the community is sorely missed. People from all walks of life, from government to business, remark on the respect and admiration they had for Sally.

Sally was exuberant and brave, bright and insightful, brilliant and engaging. She was focused and intelligent with an enduring commitment to making things better. She was also humble, loving and full of fun with wisdom beyond her years. There was truly something special about Sally Isaac and for all who knew her she remains an inspiration.

Soon after her death her family, friends and colleagues met to discuss ways to recognise the incredible impact that she had on people's lives. They decided to establish the Sally Isaac Memorial Scholarship Fund Award in her honour.

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SALLY ISAAC MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND*

The aim of the Sally Isaac Memorial Scholarship Fund, established as a sub-fund of Australian Communities Foundation in 2009, is to raise funds and awareness to build a significant capital endowment which is distributed in perpetuity by way of an educational scholarship to help foster young women leaders who make a significant contribution to the community.

The award recipient receives **\$10,000** for an educational scholarship to research or study in Australia or overseas.

The purpose of this fund is to:

- Recognise the enormous contribution that Sally Isaac made to public life, especially to those in the community who are more socially excluded and disadvantaged
- Raise the profile and support fundraising efforts for the Sally Isaac Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Foster and encourage future female leaders who commit to making a significant improvement to the community.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominees require sign-off from the CEO of their respective council to validate their contribution to the Victorian community. As part of this endorsement, the nominating council is required to fund the cost of the nominee's attendance at the **2026 LGPro Women's Network Dinner** where the winner of the award will be announced.

The successful nominee must use the scholarship award to further her education by undertaking a component of an approved tertiary course within Australia or at an overseas educational institution. Overseas courses must be able to be credited through Australian institutions.

[Click here for further information on what constitutes an approved course as per the Australian Taxation Office's guidelines](#)

Nominees are required to:

- Complete the online nomination form
- Address the selection criteria
- Attach a copy of their CV
- Attach their most recent academic record as proof that they can undertake a university or other tertiary course
- Attach three electronic photos.

Shortlisted nominees may be required to address a panel interview as part of the selection process.

The winner will be interviewed for an article in a future edition of LGPro's Profile magazine and again at the end of their scholarship. Details about the winner may also appear in LGPro's and ACF's communications, including but not limited to media releases and social media.

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NOMINEE INFORMATION

Submissions must be completed online by **5pm Friday 4 September 2026**.

Where the nominee is not a council employee, the nominee must get sign off by two nominators, one of whom must be the Chief Executive Officer of the council where they work or live.

As the council may request to see your nomination, it is advisable to save and print your online nomination along with the Endorsement Form. Once the Endorsement Form is signed off, you will need to attach a scanned copy of it to your online nomination.

An Endorsement Form can be found on **page 6** of this document.

JUDGING

A panel appointed by LGPro will judge all nominations for the award.

AWARD PRESENTATION

The winner will be announced at the 2026 LGPro Women's Dinner to be held Thursday 22 October 2026 at Park Hyatt Melbourne. **Should the nominee be unable to attend, a proxy is required to attend on their behalf.**

AWARD RECIPIENT

The award recipient will receive a **\$10,000** educational scholarship to undertake a component of a relevant and approved tertiary course in Australia or overseas on an issue or area of work that will contribute to the improvement community life.

Refer to the Australian Taxation Office's guidelines on what constitutes an approved course.

The award recipient will be required to provide a written account of how they intend to use the funds. The \$10,000 educational scholarship will be issued by the Australian Communities Foundation to the award recipient on receipt of written confirmation of enrolment in their course.

The award recipient will be required to use the funds within a reasonable time frame and provide a written report or presentation to the Australian Communities Foundation within 12 months of completion of the course.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION

Should you require any further information, please contact:

Diana Pawluk
Sector Engagement Lead
Ph: (03) 9268 6404
Email: dianap@lgpro.com

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NOMINATE ONLINE

You can nominate yourself or someone you know who meets the nomination criteria online.

Below is the information that will be sought via the online submission process:

- Nominee's name, position title, contact details and date of birth (the nominee must be 35 years or under as of 31 July 2026)
- If the nominator is not the nominee, their respective contact details
- Council endorsement (one of the nominators must be the Chief Executive Officer of one's respective council)
- Summary of the nominee describing their key attributes – examples and evidence to be provided (up to 300 words)
- Nominee's demonstrated achievements to date – evidence to be provided where possible (up to 400 words)
- How the nominee has strived to improve community life through one or a combination of the following (evidence to be provided):
 - a. Local Government
 - b. Social justice
 - c. Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation
 - d. Arts and music
 - e. Community health
 - f. Culturally and linguistically diverse communities
 - g. Urban planning
 - h. The environment (up to 400 words)
- Nominee's work history to date (both paid and voluntary work to be included) (up to 400 words)
- Details of the proposed study or research, should the nominee be successful, including:
 - a. Proposed course or research
 - b. Enrolment date
 - c. Full cost of course fees
 - d. How the applicant would meet the cost of the course, if more than the scholarship amount
- How this study would be used to contribute to improving community life (up to 200 words)
- Any further general comments (up to 250 words)
- The nominee's CV, most recent academic record and up to three electronic photos must be included with the online nomination
- Nominees who are not council employees are required to attach a letter from their organisation confirming their position title and achievements or supervisor's/referees contact details
- If applicable, the Endorsement Form to be attached (see page 6 – **nominees who are not employed by a council to complete a hard copy Endorsement Form and attach to their online nomination.** Nominees employed by a council to complete the Endorsement Form online).

***Please ensure you press the submit button once you have completed your nomination and attached the relevant requirements. When you submit your nomination online you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive this, please contact LGPro email: info@lgpro.com Ph: (03) 9268 6400.**

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SECTION FOR NON-COUNCIL EMPLOYEES ONLY

This section is only applicable to non-council employees and must be completed in hard copy, scanned and attached to your online nomination. When submitting this section to your council for approval, please attach a hard copy of your nomination for the council's information. The online system allows a draft copy to be saved and printed for this purpose. Once this Endorsement Form has been signed by your council, please scan and attach it to your online nomination. Remember to submit your entry electronically.

ENDORSEMENT FORM

Please note that one of the nominators must be the Chief Executive Officer of your respective council. As part of the endorsement of this candidate, the council must agree to fund the nominee's attendance at the **2026 LGPro Women's Dinner**.

Nominator and position (if applicable)	Position title	Council	Signature
1.			
2.			

Council contact responsible for nominee's registration at the LGPro Women's Network Dinner
Name:
Position title:
Council:
Phone:
Email:
Nominee's name:
Nominee's email:
Nominee's mobile: